



Montana Wetlands Legacy

Conserving Wetlands & Riparian Areas in Montana

(It'd Be a Whole Lot Easier
If We Knew Where The Hell They Are...)

Montana Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Meeting

October 7, 2004



Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center

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Wetlands

Losses in the United States

1780's to 1980's



Principal Author:

Thomas E. Dahl

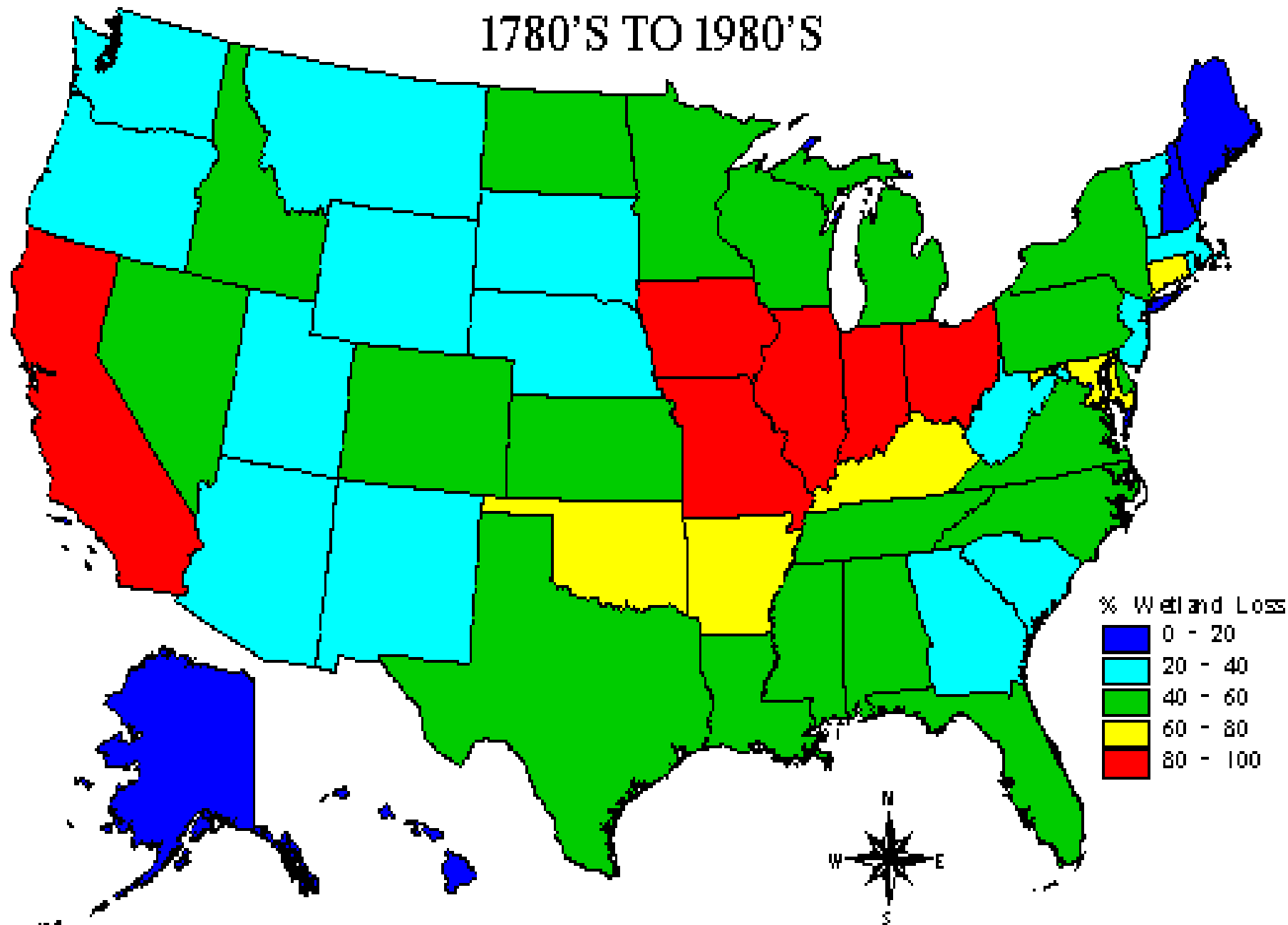
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

St. Petersburg, Florida

WETLAND LOSSES IN THE UNITED STATES

1780'S TO 1980'S



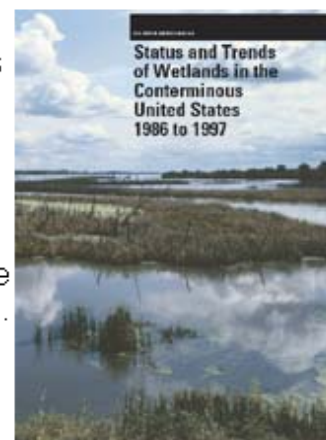


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Report to Congress on the Status and Trends of Wetlands in the Conterminous United States 1986 to 1997

The Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986 requires the Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct status and trend studies of the Nation's wetlands, and report the results to Congress each decade.

The report provides the most recent and comprehensive estimates of the current status and trends of wetlands in the conterminous 48 United States on public and private lands. A major report finding is that the Nation's estimated wetlands loss rate has declined by 80 percent from the previous decade.



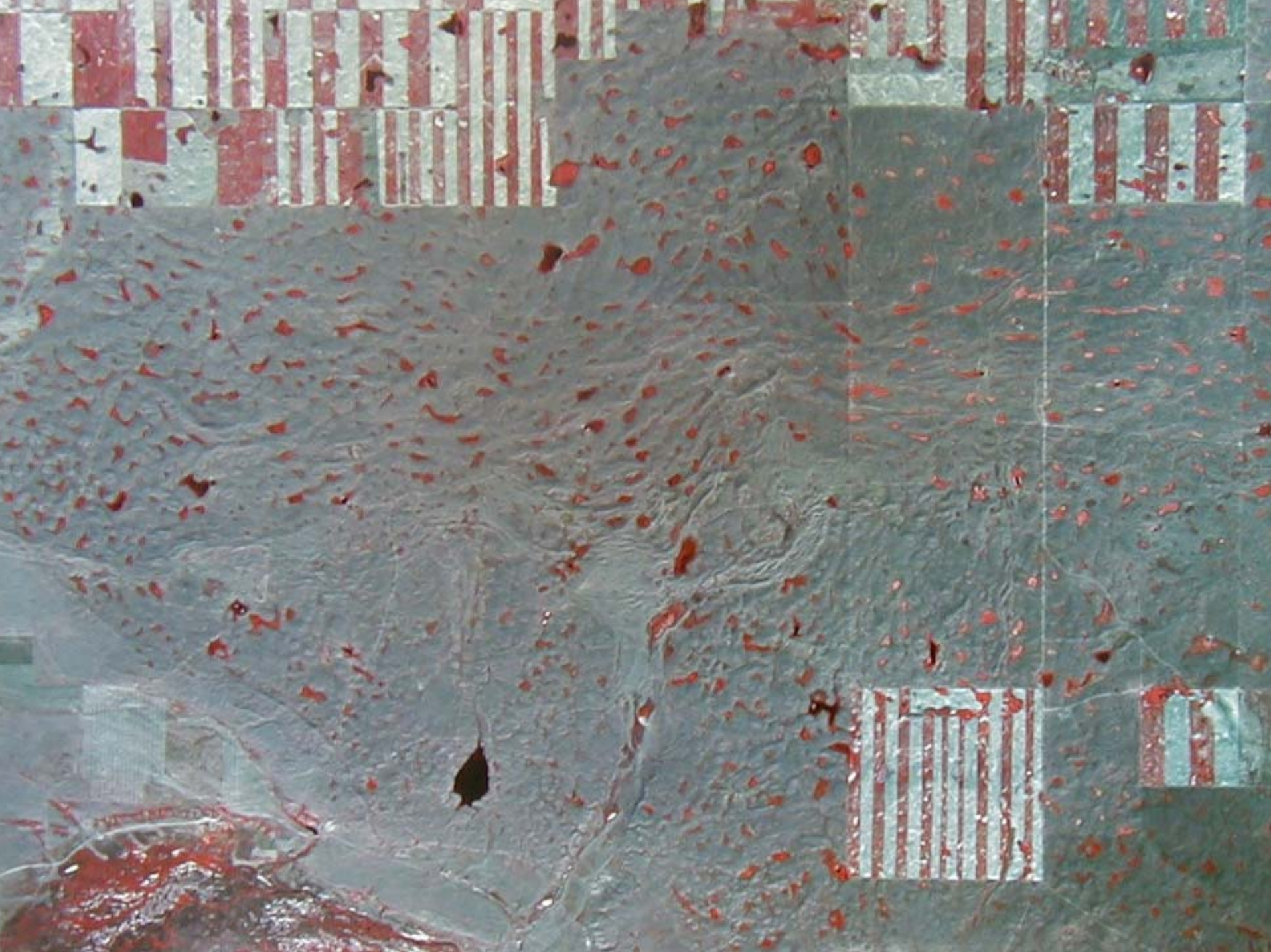
- [Summary Findings](#)
- [Questions and Answers](#)
- Full Report (*Adobe Acrobat® files*)
 - [high resolution/print quality version](#) (37.2 MB)
 - [low resolution/screen quality version](#) (8.22 MB)
- [Interagency Briefing](#) (*MS PowerPoint® file*)
- [Paper on Wetlands Loss in the United States](#) (*Adobe Acrobat® file*)
- [Additional information about Wetlands Status and Trends](#)



Montana WETLANDS LEGACY

Wetlands Appear and Disappear

- **Restoration Activities: Ongoing by all partners**
- **Continued drainage activities and conversion of wetland and riparian habitats**
- **Changes in river and stream channels**



















Montana WETLANDS LEGACY

Why do we need an Inventory?

- Formulation and implementation of state and federal wetland policies
- Assessment of status and trends
- Identifying wetlands for restoration
- Risk and vulnerability assessments
- Wetland information is needed by a variety of decision-makers, including city/county government, the state of Montana, federal agencies, conservation groups, and landowners.



Montana WETLANDS LEGACY

NWI maps all Surface Waters

- Not just marshes: includes streams, rivers, lakes, reservoirs
- Sewage lagoons, quarries, farm ponds
- Drainage ditches
- This is the most important aspect of NWI for developing partnerships









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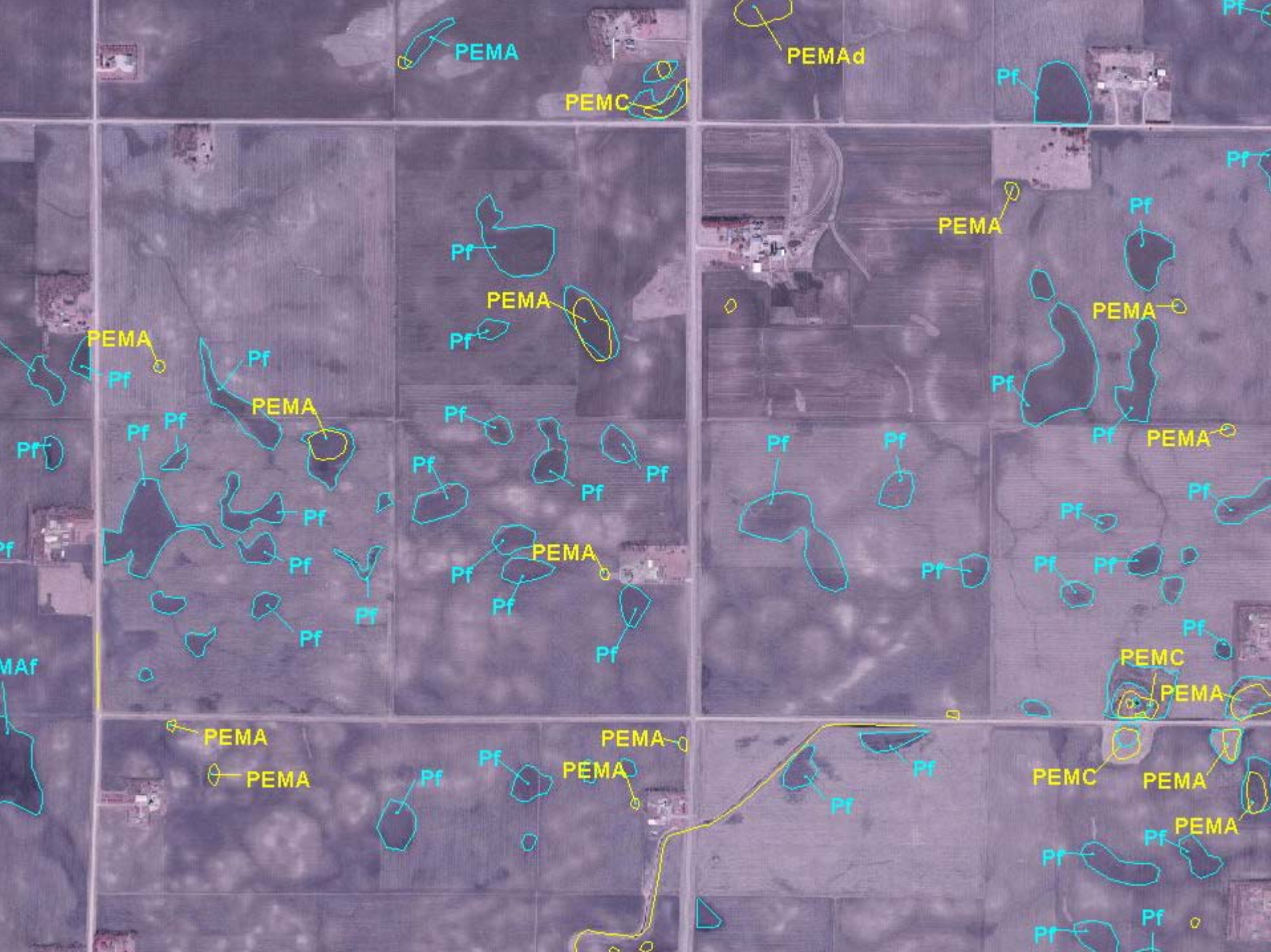
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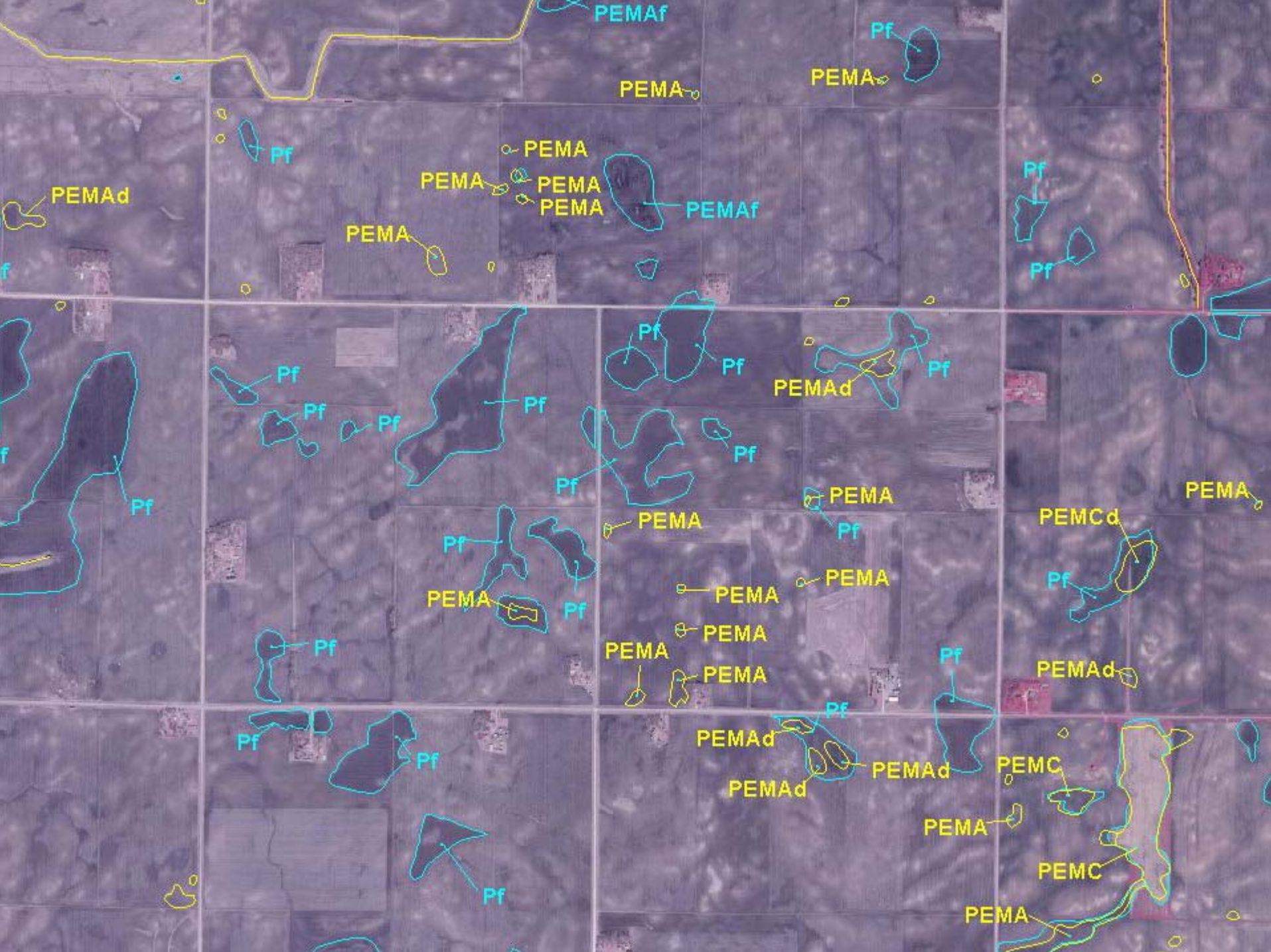


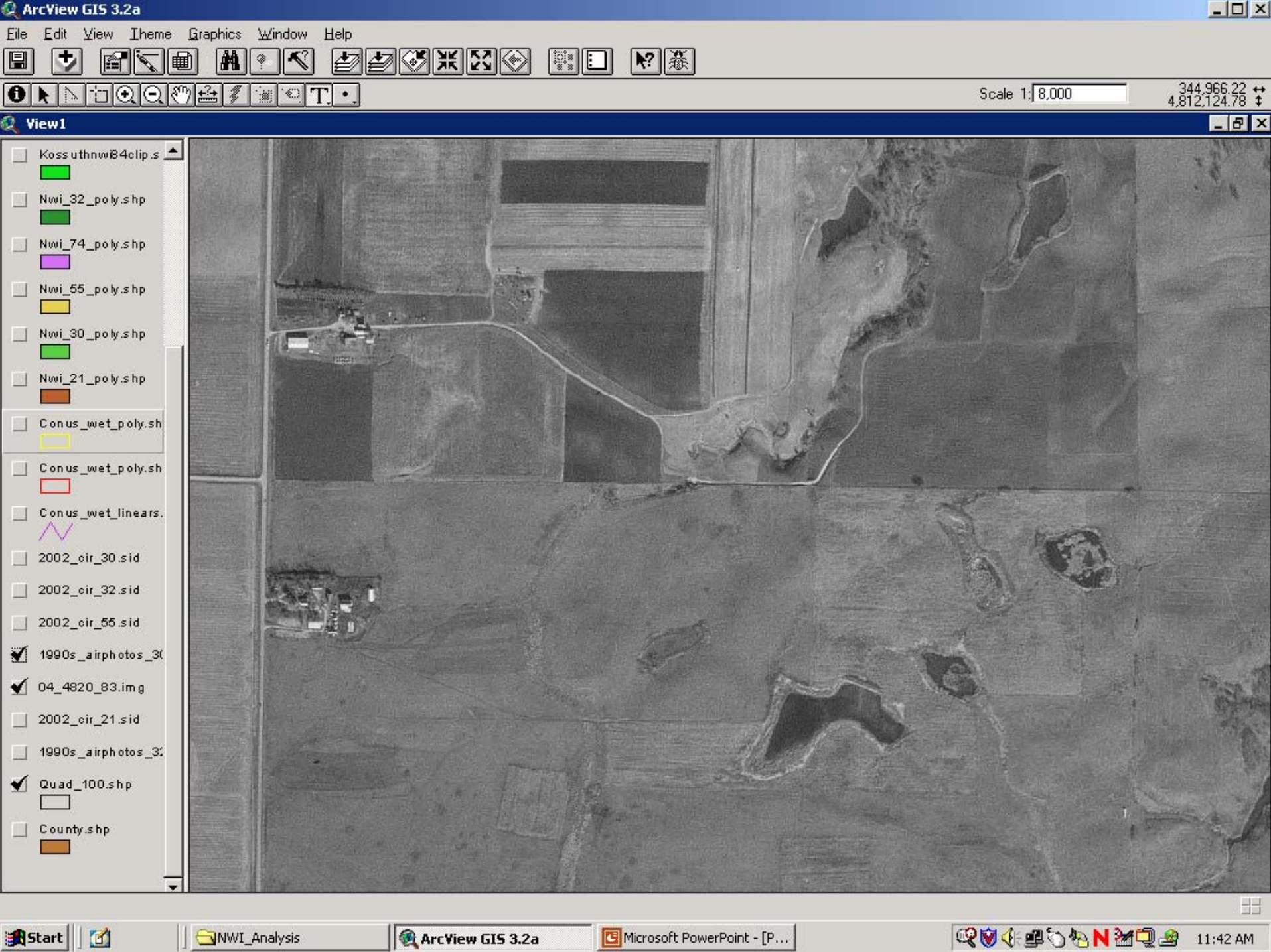

























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- ☐ Nwi_55_poly.shp

- ☐ Nwi_30_poly.shp

- ☐ Nwi_21_poly.shp

- ☐ Conus_wet_poly.sh

- ☐ Conus_wet_poly.sh

- ☐ Conus_wet_linears.

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- ☒ Quad_100.shp

- ☐ County.shp




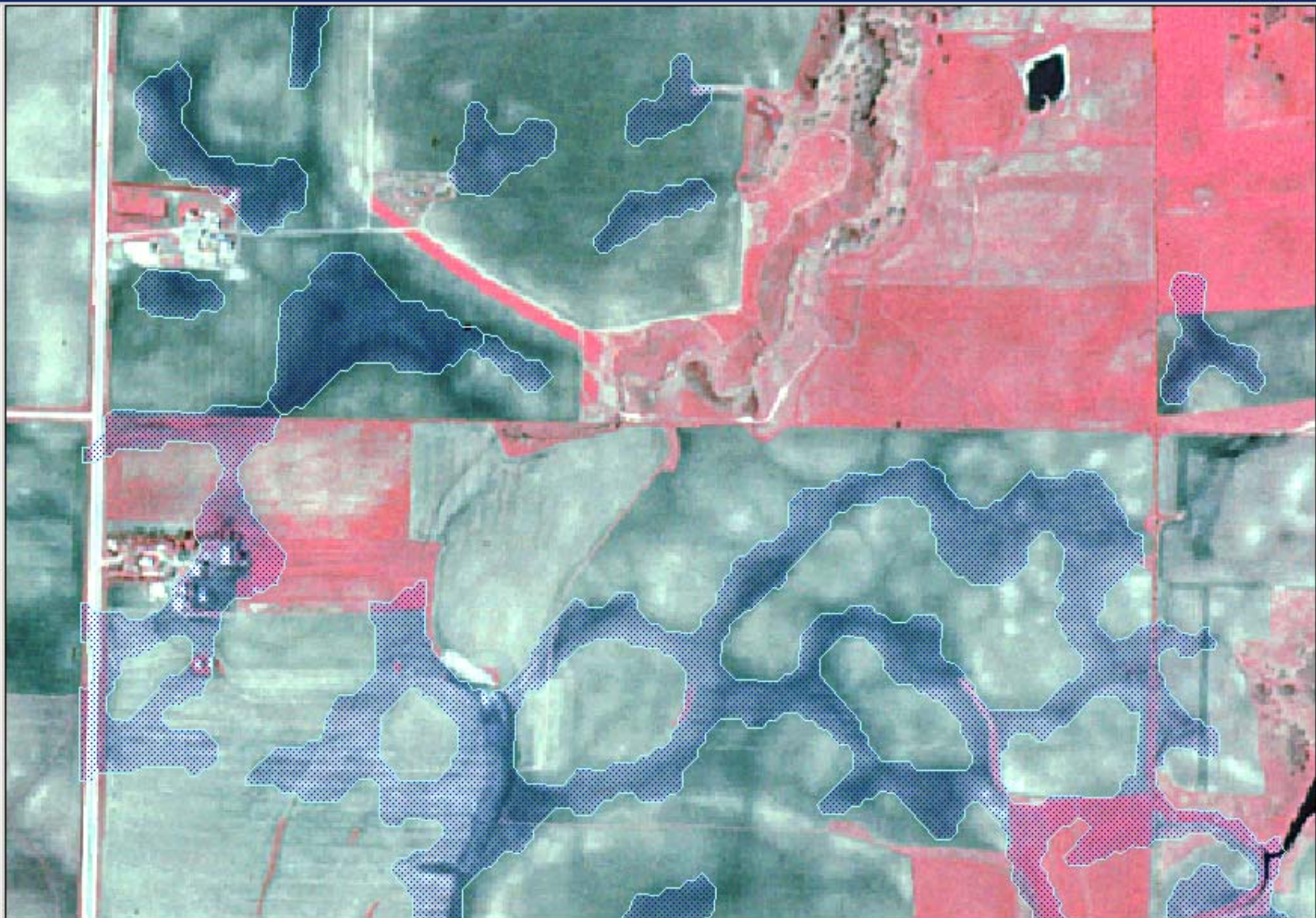


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- ☐ Claynwi84clip.shp
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- ☐ Kossuthnw84clip.s
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View1

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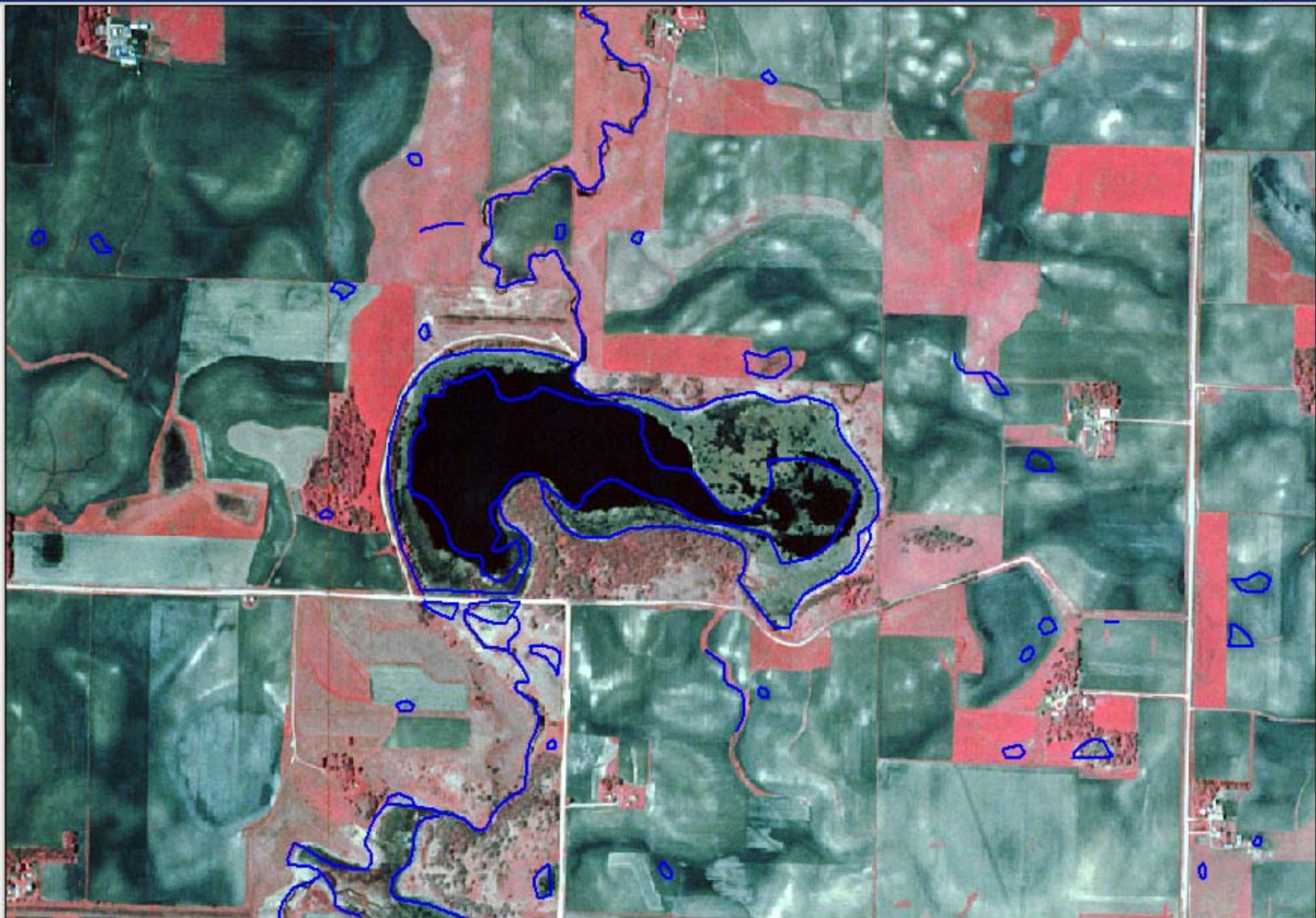


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- ☐ Landdnr383.shp
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Montana WETLANDS LEGACY

In Lieu Fee Wetland Mitigation Program

- Provides a new source of funds for wetland and stream restoration, enhancement, and development projects resulting from regulated activities in Montana's 16 primary watersheds
- Nationwide program authorized in Montana through cooperative agreement between the Army Corps of Engineers, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and Montana Department of Environmental Quality
- Montana Wetlands Legacy is the Trust Fund Administrator for the In Lieu Fee (ILF) program
- Currently limited to wetland-related impacts - Stream guidelines are currently being fleshed out by the Corps of Engineers in consultation with resource agencies, conservation districts, and others

